

# Negative Declaration & Notice Of Determination

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PLANNING & BUILD 976 Osos Street + Roo	OING DEPARTMENT M 200 • SAN LUIS OBISE	• COUNTY OF SA • • CALIFORNIA 93408	N LUIS OBISPO • (805) 781-5600
ENVIRONMENTAL DETER	MINATION NO. ED13-185		<b>DATE:</b> July 17, 2014
PROJECT/ENTITLEMENT:	Vanderveen Parcel Map;	SUB2012-00029 CO13-001	6
ADDRESS: P.	ruce Vanderveen O. Box 502 Arroyo Grande s obert Winslow 0401		elephone: 805-706-
PROPOSED USES/INTEN 0016) to subdivide an existing each for the purpose of sale a Montclair Place and El Campo disturbance of approximately disturbance will occur as the I land use category. The site is	g 4.78 acre parcel into four parand/or development. The pro o Road. The division will creation,000 square feet of the 4.7 parcels are developed. The p	arcels ranging in size from 1. ject includes off-site road im ate one on-site road. The pr 8 acre parcel for road impro- proposed project is within the	11 acres to 1.67 acres provements to oject will result in the vements. Additional
<b>LOCATION:</b> The project is of Montclair Place and El Camiles south of the communit	ampo Road, within the Palo	Place, on the northeast corn Mesa Village reserve line, a	er of the intersection approximately three
Dept 976 O San L	ty of San Luis Obispo of Planning & Building Isos Street, Rm. 200 uis Obispo, CA 93408-20 ite: http://www.sloplannin		
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE	REVIEW: YES	IO 🛛	
OTHER POTENTIAL PERM	ITTING AGENCIES:		
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION may be obtained by contactic COUNTY "REQUEST FOR	ing the above Lead Agency	address or (805)781-5600.	
20-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW F	PERIOD begins at the time		
Notice of Determinat	<u>lon</u>	State Clearinghouse N	ło.
This is to advise that the Sai Responsible Agency app has made the following dete	n Luis Obispo County roved/denied the above de rminations regarding the ab	as scribed project on ove described project:	Lead Agency and
pursuant to the provisions of project. A Statement of Overr provisions of CEQA.		nd monitoring were made a c adopted for this project. Findi	ondition of approval of the ngs were made pursuant to the
This is to certify that the Neg available to the General Pub	gative Declaration with comp lic at the 'Lead Agency' add	ments and responses and r dress above.	ecord of project approval is
	Stephanie Fuhs		County of San Luis Obispo

Date

Project Manager Name

Signature

Public Agency



## Initial Study Summary -**Environmental Checklist**

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT . COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO 976 OSOS STREET + ROOM 200 + SAN LUIS OBISPO + CALIFORNIA 93408 + (805) 781-5600

Proie	ect Title & No. Vande	rveen Parcel Map ED1	3-185 (SUE	(ver 5.1) <u>Using Form</u> 32012-00029 CO13-0016)		
ENVIR "Poten refer to	ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: The proposed project could have a "Potentially Significant Impact" for at least one of the environmental factors checked below. Please refer to the attached pages for discussion on mitigation measures or project revisions to either reduce these impacts to less than significant levels or require further study.					
Agı Air Bio	sthetics ricultural Resources Quality llogical Resources Itural Resources	Geology and Soils Hazards/Hazardous I Noise Population/Housing Public Services/Utiliti		<ul> <li>☐ Recreation</li> <li>☐ Transportation/Circulation</li> <li>☐ Wastewater</li> <li>☐ Water /Hydrology</li> <li>☐ Land Use</li> </ul>		
	•	pleted by the Lead Agenc				
On the	e basis of this initial evalu	ation, the Environmental C	coordinator	<u>finds that:</u>		
	The proposed project NEGATIVE DECLARAT		gnificant ef	fect on the environment, and a		
	be a significant effect i	n this case because revi	sions in the	on the environment, there will not e project have been made by or SATIVE DECLARATION will be		
		: MAY have a signific PACT REPORT is required		on the environment, and an		
	unless mitigated" impact analyzed in an earlier addressed by mitigation	ct on the environment, bu document pursuant to a n measures based on the MENTAL IMPACT REPOR	t at least or oplicable le e earlier ar	impact" or "potentially significant ne effect 1) has been adequately gal standards, and 2) has been nalysis as described on attached ed, but it must analyze only the		
	potentially significant of NEGATIVE DECLARAT mitigated pursuant to t	effects (a) have been a FION pursuant to applicab hat earlier EIR or NEGA	inalyzed ad le standard IIVE DECL	t on the environment, because all dequately in an earlier EIR or is, and (b) have been avoided or ARATION, including revisions or ject, nothing further is required.	Ŋ	
	anie Fuhs	<u> </u>	u qui	V8 1/8/1	+	
Prepa	ared by (Print)	Signature		ruate		
	McMasters ##	MMyt		roll, ental Coordinator 7/11/14	-	

#### **Project Environmental Analysis**

The County's environmental review process incorporates all of the requirements for completing the Initial Study as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines. The Initial Study includes staff's on-site inspection of the project site and surroundings and a detailed review of the information in the file for the project. In addition, available background information is reviewed for each project. Relevant information regarding soil types and characteristics, geologic information, significant vegetation and/or wildlife resources, water availability, wastewater disposal services, existing land uses and surrounding land use categories and other information relevant to the environmental review process are evaluated for each project. Exhibit A includes the references used, as well as the agencies or groups that were contacted as a part of the Initial Study. The County Planning Department uses the checklist to summarize the results of the research accomplished during the initial environmental review of the project.

Persons, agencies or organizations interested in obtaining more information regarding the environmental review process for a project should contact the County of San Luis Obispo Current Planning Division, 976 Osos Street, Rm. 200, San Luis Obispo, CA, 93408-2040 or call (805) 781-5600.

#### A. PROJECT

DESCRIPTION: Request by Bruce Vanderveen for a Vesting Tentative Parcel Map (CO13-0016) to subdivide an existing 4.78 acre parcel into four parcels ranging in size from 1.11 acres to 1.67 acres each for the purpose of sale and/or development. The project includes off-site road improvements to Montclair Place and El Campo Road. The division will create one on-site road. The project will result in the disturbance of approximately 10,000 square feet of the 4.78 acre parcel for road improvements. Additional disturbance will occur as the parcels are developed. The proposed project is within the Residential Suburban land use category and is located at 2434 Montclair Place, on the northeast corner of the intersection of Montclair Place and El Campo Road, within the Palo Mesa Village reserve line, approximately three miles south of the community of Oceano. The site is in the South County (Inland) planning area.

The project site is currently undeveloped. With the subdivision, there is a potential for four primary dwellings, four secondary dwellings and residential accessory structures allowable in the Residential Suburban land use category.

ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER(S): 075-151-018

Latitude: 35 degrees 4' 6" N Longitude: 120 degrees 34' 58" W

**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT #4** 

#### **EXISTING SETTING** В.

PLANNING AREA: South County (Inland), Palo Mesa TOPOGRAPHY: Nearly level

LAND USE CATEGORY: Residential Suburban

**VEGETATION**: Grasses Eucalyptus trees

**COMBINING DESIGNATION(S): None** 

PARCEL SIZE: 4.78 acres

**EXISTING USES:** Undeveloped

#### SURROUNDING LAND USE CATEGORIES AND USES:

North: Residential Suburban; single-family residence(s)	East: Residential Suburban; single-family residence(s)
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South: Residential Rural; Cypress Ridge Golf Course	West: Residential Suburban; single-family residence(s)
Course	Sitigle-lattiny residentee(e)

### C. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

During the Initial Study process, several issues were identified as having potentially significant environmental effects (see following Initial Study). Those potentially significant items associated with the proposed uses can be minimized to less than significant levels.



# COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

	PLANNING & BUILDING COUNTY OF SAN LOIS OF 15 PO				
1.	AESTHETICS Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Create an aesthetically incompatible site open to public view?				
b)	Introduce a use within a scenic view open to public view?				
c)	Change the visual character of an area?			$\boxtimes$	
d)	Create glare or night lighting, which may affect surrounding areas?		$\boxtimes$		
<b>e</b> )	Impact unique geological or physical features?			$\boxtimes$	
f)	Other:				
Th gra Th dw	perty across El Campo Road. The parcel is one site is relatively flat with some scattered euclisses, forbs and shrubs. There are public utiling a proposal is for four, one-acre parcels whice elling and other uses that are allowed within the on-site road accessing the parcels from More	calyptus and o ity lines runnir th can be dev the residentia	cypress trees. ng diagonally a reloped with a	across Parcels primary and s	1, 2 and 3. single family
Impact. The project site is visible from both Montclair Place and El Campo Road, but will not silhouette against any ridgelines as viewed from public roadways. The project is considered compatible with the surrounding uses. Future residential development would result in night lighting and glare impacts to the surrounding rural areas.					
<b>Mitigation/Conclusion.</b> To minimize night lighting and glare impacts, the applicant shall provide a lighting plan to ensure all proposed lighting is directed downward and will not extend beyond the site. No significant visual impacts are expected to occur, and no mitigation measures are necessary.					
2.	AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Convert prime agricultural land, per NRCS soil classification, to non- agricultural use?				

2. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable		
b) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use?						
c) Impair agricultural use of other property or result in conversion to other uses?			$\boxtimes$			
<ul> <li>d) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or Williamson Act program?</li> </ul>			y y y y y y y y y y y y y y y y y y y			
e) Other:						
<b>Setting</b> . <u>Project Elements</u> . The following area-specific elements relate to the property's importance for agricultural production:						
Land Use Category: Residential Suburban <u>Historic/Existing Commercial Crops</u> : None						
State Classification: Not prime farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance Under Williamson Act contract? No						
The soil type(s) and characteristics on the subject property include:						
The soil has low erodibility and low shrink-sw system constraints due to: poor filtering capabil and Class IV when irrigated.	Oceano sand (0 - 9 % slope). This nearly level to gently sloping sandy soil is considered well drained. The soil has low erodibility and low shrink-swell characteristics, as well as having potential septic system constraints due to: poor filtering capabilities. The soil is considered Class VI without irrigation					
Oceano sand, (9 - 30 % slope). This moderate soil has low erodibility and low shrink-swell characteristics due to: poor filtering capabilities, sirrigation and Class is not rated when irrigated.	aracteristics, a	ıs well as hav	ing potential se	eptic system		
Impact. The project is located in a predomina occurring on the property or immediate vicinity anticipated.	ntly non-agric	ultural area w ant impacts to	ith no agricultu agricultural re	ral activities sources are		
Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measure	es are necess	ary.				
3. AIR QUALITY  Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable		
a) Violate any state or federal ambient air quality standard, or exceed air quality emission thresholds as established by County Air Pollution Control District?		· 🗀				
<ul> <li>b) Expose any sensitive receptor to substantial air pollutant concentrations?</li> </ul>						
County of San Luis Obispo, Initial Study				Page 5		

3.	AIR QUALITY Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
c)	Create or subject individuals to objectionable odors?				
d)	Be inconsistent with the District's Clean Air Plan?			$\boxtimes$	The state of the s
e)	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant either considered in non-attainment under applicable state or federal ambient air quality standards that are due to increased energy use or traffic generation, or intensified land use change?				
GI	REENHOUSE GASES				
f)	Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?				
g)	Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?				
h)	Other: cumulative impacts		$\boxtimes$		

**Setting.** The Air Pollution Control District (APCD) has developed and updated their CEQA Air Quality Handbook (2012) to evaluate project specific impacts and help determine if air quality mitigation measures are needed, or if potentially significant impacts could result. To evaluate long-term emissions, cumulative effects, and establish countywide programs to reach acceptable air quality levels, a Clean Air Plan has been adopted (prepared by APCD).

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions are said to result in an increase in the earth's average surface temperature. This is commonly referred to as global warming. The rise in global temperature is associated with long-term changes in precipitation, temperature, wind patterns, and other elements of the earth's climate system. This is also known as climate change. These changes are now thought to be broadly attributed to GHG emissions, particularly those emissions that result from the human production and use of fossil fuels.

The passage of AB32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act (2006), recognized the need to reduce GHG emissions and set the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal for the State of California into law. The law required that by 2020, State emissions must be reduced to 1990 levels. This is to be accomplished by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from significant sources via regulation, market mechanisms, and other actions. Subsequent legislation (e.g., SB97-Greenhouse Gas Emissions bill) directed the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to develop statewide thresholds.

In March 2012, the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) approved thresholds for GHG emission impacts, and these thresholds have been incorporated the APCD's CEQA Air

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Quality Handbook. APCD determined that a tiered process for residential / commercial land use projects was the most appropriate and effective approach for assessing the GHG emission impacts. The tiered approach includes three methods, any of which can be used for any given project:

- 1. Qualitative GHG Reduction Strategies (e.g. Climate Action Plans): A qualitative threshold that is consistent with AB 32 Scoping Plan measures and goals; or,
- 2. Bright-Line Threshold: Numerical value to determine the significance of a project's annual GHG emissions; or,
- 3. Efficiency-Based Threshold: Assesses the GHG impacts of a project on an emissions per capita basis.

For most projects the Bright-Line Threshold of 1,150 Metric Tons CO2/year (MT CO2e/yr) will be the most applicable threshold. In addition to the residential/commercial threshold options proposed above, a bright-line numerical value threshold of 10,000 MT CO2e/yr was adopted for stationary source (industrial) projects.

It should be noted that projects that generate less than the above mentioned thresholds will also participate in emission reductions because air emissions, including GHGs, are under the purview of the California Air Resources Board (or other regulatory agencies) and will be "regulated" either by CARB, the Federal Government, or other entities. For example, new vehicles will be subject to increased fuel economy standards and emission reductions, large and small appliances will be subject to more strict emissions standards, and energy delivered to consumers will increasingly come from renewable sources. Other programs that are intended to reduce the overall GHG emissions include Low Carbon Fuel Standards, Renewable Portfolio standards and the Clean Car standards. As a result, even the emissions that result from projects that produce fewer emissions than the threshold will be subject to emission reductions.

Under CEQA, an individual project's GHG emissions will generally not result in direct significant impacts. This is because the climate change issue is global in nature. However, an individual project could be found to contribute to a potentially significant cumulative impact. Projects that have GHG emissions above the noted thresholds may be considered cumulatively considerable and require mitigation.

San Luis Obispo County in its' entirety is designated as being in non-attainment with the state PM10 standard. The APCD has been investigating elevated particulate levels on the Nipomo Mesa for the past decade. Studies performed by the APCD in the area have shown the source of the elevated particulate matter pollution to be windblown dust from the open sand areas of the Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area (ODSVRA), and that emissions are increased by off-road vehicle activity.

Certain areas on the mesa are more impacted by this windblown dust than others. The highest concentrations are found on the southern portion of the mesa and into the Santa Maria Valley. The area where the current project is located is on the northern portion of the mesa and is not as impacted by the ODSVRA due to prevailing wind patterns which primarily carry air from the ocean over the beaches in Pismo and Grover Beach where the sand is more stabilized by natural vegetation.

The APCD approach to attainment of the PM10 standard is via APCD particulate matter rules and regulations. Rule 1001 specifically applies to blowing dust from coastal dunes. Rule 1001 was developed and implemented as a result of the studies in the Nipomo Mesa area as a means to mitigate the blowing dust impacts. The litigation filed by Friends of Oceano Dunes against the APCD challenging Rule 1001 has been resolved with a comprehensive proposed Consent Decree, mediated by the California Air Resources Board, which provides for immediate enforcement of Rule 1001 and mitigation measures to reduce PM10. The consent decree appoints a special master and a dispute resolution process. Recently, the APCD and California State Parks jointly signed a "consent decree" agreement to preserve much of Rule 1001.

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Impact. As proposed, the project will result in the disturbance of approximately 10,000 square feet for road improvements, with additional disturbance as the individual parcels are developed. This will result in the creation of construction dust, as well as short- and long-term vehicle emissions. The project will be moving less than 1,200 cubic yards/day of material and will disturb less than four acres of area, and therefore will be below the general thresholds triggering construction-related mitigation. The project is also not in close proximity to sensitive receptors that might otherwise result in nuisance complaints and be subject to limited dust and/or emission control measures during construction.

From an operational standpoint, based on Table 1-1 of the CEQA Air Quality Handbook (2012), the project will not exceed operational thresholds triggering mitigation. The project is consistent with the general level of development anticipated and projected in the Clean Air Plan. No significant air quality impacts are expected to occur.

This project is a parcel map creating four, one-acre parcels. Using the GHG threshold information described in the Setting section, the project is expected to generate less than the Bright-Line Therefore, the project's potential direct and Threshold of 1,150 metric tons of GHG emissions. cumulative GHG emissions are found to be less significant and less than a cumulatively considerable contribution to GHG emissions. Section 15064(h)(2) of the CEQA Guidelines provide guidance on how to evaluate cumulative impacts. If it is shown that an incremental contribution to a cumulative impact, such as global climate change, is not 'cumulatively considerable', no mitigation is required. Because this project's emissions fall under the threshold, no mitigation is required.

The project proposes to disturb soils that have been given a wind erodibility rating of 1, which is considered "low".

Mitigation/Conclusion. The project will be subject to standard dust control measures. These measures include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Reducing the amount of disturbed area when possible.
- Using water trucks and sprinkler systems to prevent dust from leaving the site.
- Dirt stockpiles sprayed daily and as needed.
- Driveways and sidewalks paved as soon as possible.

In addition, each new residence will be subject to the South County Air Quality Mitigation fee, which is intended to partially mitigate the cumulative effects of new residential development within the South County planning area. This program funds several strategies within the South County to improve air quality and reduce single-occupant vehicles, by: attracting transit ridership through regional bus stop improvements; encouraging carpooling through park-and-ride lot improvements and ridesharing advertising; promoting the use of bicycles through bike lane installation; reducing dust through limited road paving of several unpaved roads; and by providing electronic information/services locally to reduce vehicle trip lengths. Also, the project will be subject to residential wood combustion and naturally occurring asbestos standards as recommended by the APCD. Please refer to Exhibit B -Mitigation Summary Table for a detailed list of required mitigation measures. Incorporation of these measures will reduce impacts to less than significant levels.

4.	BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Result in a loss of unique or special status species* or their habitats?				
	County of San Luis Obispo, Initial Study				Page 8

4.	BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
b)	Reduce the extent, diversity or quality of native or other important vegetation?				
c)	Impact wetland or riparian habitat?				$\boxtimes$
d)	Interfere with the movement of resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, or factors, which could hinder the normal activities of wildlife?				
e)	Conflict with any regional plans or policies to protect sensitive species, or regulations of the California Department of Fish & Wildlife or U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service?				
f)	Other:				

<sup>\*</sup> Species – as defined in Section15380 of the CEQA Guidelines, which includes all plant and wildlife species that fall under the category of rare, threatened or endangered, as described in this section.

**Setting**. The following are existing elements on or near the proposed project relating to potential biological concerns:

On-site Vegetation: urban built up with eucalyptus trees

Name and distance from blue line creek(s): Unnamed Creek approximately 0.62 miles to the South

Habitat(s): None

Site's tree canopy coverage: Less than 10%

The site is relatively flat with some scattered eucalyptus and cypress trees. Other vegetation includes grasses, forbs and shrubs.

The Natural Diversity Database (or other biological references) identified the following species potentially existing within approximately one mile of the proposed project:

#### Vegetation

Blochman's leafy daisy (Erigeron blochmaniae) List 1B

Blochman's leafy daisy (Erigeron blochmaniae) has been found about 0.86 mile to the North. This perennial herb is generally found growing in coastal dunes and hills, coastal scrub areas at elevations between 3 and 45 meters (10 to 150 feet). It is a California endemic which has a blooming period of July-August. Blochman's leafy daisy is considered rare by the CNPS (List 1B, RED 2-2-3). While the site does contain some of the characteristics described above, the habitat for this plant is so fragmented and disturbed on the site and surrounding area, it does not appear suitable for this species to occur on the property.

Gambel's watercress (Rorippa gambelii) FE, ST, List 1B

Gambel's watercress (Rorippa gambelii) has been found about 0.59 mile to the South. This perennial herb is found in marshes, swamps, and at the borders of lakes at elevations ranging from 5 to 330 meters (15 to 1,085 feet). The typical flowering period is April through June. The species is known to exist at Oso Flaco Lake, near small twin lakes south of Arroyo Grande (west of the project site), on

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the south and north edge of Little Oso Flaco Lake, and near Black Lake Canyon Lake. Gambel's watercress is federally endangered, state threatened, and rated as rare by CNPS (List 1B, RED 3-3-2). The project site does not contain characteristics described above, therefore, this species is not considered to exist on this site.

Hoover's bentgrass (Agrostis hooveri) List 1B

Hoover's bentgrass (Agrostis hooveri) has been found about 0.54 mile to the South. This perennial herb prefers sandy soils in open chaparral, cismontane woodland, and valley and foothill grassland area below the 600-meter (1,970-foot) elevation. The species blooming period is April-July. Hoover's bentgrass is considered rare by the California Native Plant Society (List 1B, RED 2-2-3). The fragmented and disturbed nature of the project site does not appear to support this species.

Nipomo Mesa lupine (Lupinus nipomensis) FE, SE, List 1B

Nipomo mesa lupine (Lupinus nipomensis) has been found about 0.62 mile to the Southwest. This species is an annual herb that occurs in coastal dune habitat with pockets of bare sand (Tibor 2001). The typical flowering period for this species is March through May. The species grows at 10 m to 50 m (30 ft to 165 ft) elevations. The Nipomo mesa lupine is a federal endangered species and the CNPS considers this plant to be extremely rare (List 1B, 3-3-3). This species is typically found on sites within coastal dune habitats fairly close to the ocean. This site is further inland than those sites where the species has been identified, therefore the likelihood of occurrence on the project site is considered remote.

San Luis Obispo (curly-leaved) monardella (Monardella frutescens) List 1B

San Luis Obispo monardella (Monardella frutescens) has been found about 0.81 mile to the Southwest. This perennial herb is found on sandy soils and in stabilized coastal dunes and coastal scrub habitats between the 10 and 200-meter elevations (30 to 660 feet). The species generally blooms from May through September. The CNPS considers this plant to be rare (List 1B, 2-2-3). This species is also typically found on sites within coastal dune habitats fairly close to the ocean. This site is further inland than those sites where the species has been identified, therefore the likelihood of occurrence on the project site is considered remote.

Santa Margarita manzanita (Arctostaphylos pilosula ssp. pilosula) List 1B

Santa Margarita manzanita (*Arctostaphylos pilosula* ssp. *pilosula*) has been found about 0.04 mile to the East. This evergreen shrub is found on shale soils in closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral; and cismontane woodland areas between the 170 and 1,100-meter elevations (555 to 3,600 feet). The typical blooming period is December-March. Santa Margarita manzanita is considered rare by CNPS (List 1B, RED 3-2-3). *The project site does not support the habitat listed above, so the species is not likely to occur on the parcel.* 

#### Wildlife

Marsh (swamp) sandwort (Arenaria paludicola) FE, SE, List 1B

Marsh sandwort (Arenaria paludicola) has been found about 0.54 mile to the South. This perennial herb occurs in freshwater marsh habitats (Tibor 2001) up to the 450-meter elevation (1,480 feet). The typical flowering period is May through August. Marsh sandwort is considered federally and state endangered, and extremely rare by CNPS (List 1B, RED 3-3-3). This site does not contain any wetland or marsh habitat, so this species is not expected to occur on the project site.

#### Habitat

Central Dune Scrub

Central dune scrub is restricted to the coast between Bodega Bay and Point Conception (Holland, 1986). Coastal dune scrub lies adjacent to and directly inland from dune vegetation. This community consists primarily of subshrubs (low-growing woody species such as *Artemisia pycnocpehala* and

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Ericameria ericoides). CDFG defines this community as threatened, with 1,000-3,000 individuals or 2,000-10,000 acres remaining (S2.2). The site does not appear to contain species indicative of central dune scrub habitat due to the scattered nature of shrubs on the site. The site appears to have been mowed for fire suppression and contains very few shrubs, primarily grasses which appear to be non-native.

**Impact.** Nesting birds may be disturbed by vegetation removal, disruptive construction equipment noise, and increased human activity near nesting areas. Fish and Game Code 3503 protects birds, their eggs and nests from disturbance or destruction from construction activities. Road widening will not require removal of any trees, however, future residential development on Parcels 3 and 4 could result in the removal of the row of eucalyptus trees along El Campo Road depending on where development occurs. Monarch butterflies use eucalyptus throughout the San Luis Obispo County but no evidence suggests this site is a roosting site or important nectaring area. Ornamental landscaping will provide additional nectaring opportunities for the Monarch butterfly.

Mitigation/Conclusion. To avoid impacts to nesting birds, the applicant has agreed to avoid removal of vegetation or any other ground disturbance between Februrary and September 15 to avoid impacts to native breeding and nesting birds. If construction activities during this period cannot be avoided, a county-approved biologist shall survey all breeding and nesting habitat on the site and adjacent sites for breeding and/or nesting birds no more than two weeks prior to construction or site disturbance activities. Results of the surveys shall be submitted to the Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) for concurrence with the report. If nesting and/or breeding birds are found, appropriate mitigation measures shall be developed in consultation with the CDFG and the applicant shall adhere to these measures during all construction activities on the site. These measures may include postponing disturbance until nesting activities have stopped.

5.	CULTURAL RESOURCES Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Disturb archaeological resources?		Management	$\boxtimes$	
b)	Disturb historical resources?				$\boxtimes$
c)	Disturb paleontological resources?				$\boxtimes$
d)	Other:				

**Setting.** The project is located in an area historically occupied by the Obispeno Chumash. Several known archaeological sites exist within a mile radius of the project site.

**Impact.** A Cultural Resources Assessment, including a Phase I surface survey was conducted (Cogstone/March 2013). No evidence of cultural materials was noted on the property. Impacts to historical or paleontological resources are not expected.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** No significant cultural resource impacts are expected to occur, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

County of San Luis Obispo, Initial Study

6.	GEOLOGY AND SOILS Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Result in exposure to or production of unstable earth conditions, such as landslides, earthquakes, liquefaction, ground failure, land subsidence or other similar hazards?				
b)	Be within a California Geological Survey "Alquist-Priolo" Earthquake Fault Zone", or other known fault zones*?				
<b>c</b> )	Result in soil erosion, topographic changes, loss of topsoil or unstable soil conditions from project-related improvements, such as vegetation removal, grading, excavation, or fill?				
d)	Include structures located on expansive soils?				
e)	Be inconsistent with the goals and policies of the County's Safety Element relating to Geologic and Seismic Hazards?				
f)	Preclude the future extraction of valuable mineral resources?			$\boxtimes$	
g)	Other:				
* P	er Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication	on #42			
Se	tting. The following relates to the project's g	eologic aspec	ts or condition	s:	
	Topography: Nearly level				
	Within County's Geologic Study Area?: No				
	Landslide Risk Potential: Low				
	Liquefaction Potential: Moderate				
		tance? Not a	• •	•	
	Area known to contain serpentine or ultrama	afic rock or so	ils?: No		
	Shrink/Swell potential of soil: Low				
	Other notable geologic features? None				

**Impact.** As proposed, the project will result in the disturbance of approximately 10,000 square feet for road improvements, with additional disturbance as the parcels are developed. Because the project is located on sandy soils, on mostly level terrain, no significant impacts are expected to occur.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** There is no evidence that measures above what will already be required by ordinance or codes are needed.

County of San Luis Obispo, Initial Study

7.	HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Create a hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?				
b)	Create a hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				
c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 1/4-mile of an existing or proposed school?				
d)	Be located on, or adjacent to, a site which is included on a list of hazardous material/waste sites compiled pursuant to Gov't Code 65962.5 ("Cortese List"), and result in an adverse public health condition?				
e)	Impair implementation or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response or evacuation plan?				
<b>f)</b>	If within the Airport Review designation, or near a private airstrip, result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				
g)	Increase fire hazard risk or expose people or structures to high wildland fire hazard conditions?			$\boxtimes$	
h)	Be within a 'very high' fire hazard severity zone?				$\boxtimes$
i)	Be within an area classified as a 'state responsibility' area as defined by CalFire?				
j)	Other:				
pro Re	otting. The project is not located in an argorithms. The project is not within a 'high' or 'very high' severit eview area. With regards to potential fire haz	ty risk area for ards, the subje	fire. The project is n	ect is not within ot within any m	the Airport apped Fire

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5 minutes to respond to a call regarding fire or life safety. Refer to the Public Services section for further discussion on Fire Safety impacts.

Impact. The project does not propose the use of hazardous materials, nor the generation of hazardous wastes. The proposed project is not found on the 'Cortese List' (which is a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5). The project does not present a significant fire safety risk. The project is not expected to conflict with any regional emergency response or evacuation plan.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant impacts as a result of hazards or hazardous materials are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

8.	NOISE  Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Expose people to noise levels that exceed the County Noise Element thresholds?				
b)	Generate permanent increases in the ambient noise levels in the project vicinity?				
c)	Cause a temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise in the project vicinity?			$\boxtimes$	
d)	Expose people to severe noise or vibration?			$\boxtimes$	
e)	If located within the Airport Review designation or adjacent to a private airstrip, expose people residing or working in the project area to severe noise levels?				
f)	Other:				

Setting. The project is not within close proximity of loud noise sources, and will not conflict with any sensitive noise receptors (e.g., residences). Based on the Noise Element's projected future noise generation from known stationary and vehicle-generated noise sources, the project is within an acceptable threshold area.

Impact. The project is not expected to generate loud noises, nor conflict with the surrounding uses.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant noise impacts are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

9. 1	POPULATION/HOUSING Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
e h	nduce substantial growth in an area wither directly (e.g., construct new nomes or businesses) or indirectly e.g., extension of major nfrastructure)?				
ŕ	Displace existing housing or people, equiring construction of replacement nousing elsewhere?				
	Create the need for substantial new nousing in the area?			$\boxtimes$	
d) (	Other:				
Impa displ Mitig will r hous impa the a	conjunction with both residential and nonresidential development and subdivisions.  Impact. The project will not result in a need for a significant amount of new housing, and will not displace existing housing.  Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant population and housing impacts are anticipated. The project will mitigate its cumulative impact to the shortage of affordable housing stock by providing affordable housing unit(s) either on-site and/or by payment of the in-lieu fee (residential projects), or housing impact fee (commercial projects). No mitigation measures are necessary. Prior to map recordation, the applicant will pay an affordable housing in-lieu fee consistent with the applicable fee ordinance.  10. PUBLIC SERVICES/UTILITIES Potentially Impact can Insignificant Not				
,	Will the project have an effect upon, or result in the need for new or altered public services in any of the following areas:	Significant	& will be mitigated	Impact	Applicable
a)	Fire protection?	1	$\boxtimes$		
b)	Police protection (e.g., Sheriff, CHP)?		$\boxtimes$		
c)	Schools?		$\boxtimes$		
d)	Roads?		$\boxtimes$		
e)	Solid Wastes?			$\boxtimes$	
f)	Other public facilities?			$\boxtimes$	
g)	Other:				
Sett	ting. The project area is served by the follow	wing public se	rvices/facilities	<b>:</b> :	
	County of San Luis Obispo, Initial Study				Page 15

#### Attachment 5

Police: County Sheriff	Location: Oceano (Approximately 3 miles to the Northwest)		
Fire: Cal Fire (formerly CDF)	Hazard Severity: Not in any Response Time: 4-5 minutes mapped severity area		
Location: Approximately 1.4	niles to the South		
School District: Lucia Mar Unified	School District.		

For additional information regarding fire hazard impacts, go to the 'Hazards and Hazardous Materials' section

Impact. No significant project-specific impacts to utilities or public services were identified. This project, along with others in the area, will have a cumulative effect on police/sheriff and fire protection, and schools. The project's direct and cumulative impacts are within the general assumptions of allowed use for the subject property that was used to estimate the fees in place. The project site is within the South County Road Fee Area 2. These fees are collected at the time of construction permits and are assessed in order to address cumulative traffic impacts of new development on the regional road network in the south county.

Regarding cumulative effects, public facility (County), school (State Mitigation/Conclusion. Government Code 65995 et seq.) and road fee programs have been adopted to address these impacts, and will reduce the cumulative impacts to less than significant levels.

11.	RECREATION  Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Increase the use or demand for parks or other recreation opportunities?				
b)	Affect the access to trails, parks or other recreation opportunities?				Al Article
c)	Other				6.0

Setting. The County's Parks and Recreation Element does not show that a potential trail goes through the proposed project. The project is not proposed in a location that will affect any trail, park, recreational resource, coastal access, and/or Natural Area. Prior to map recordation, county ordinance requires the payment of a fee (Quimby) for the improvement or development of neighborhood or community parks.

Impact. The proposed project will not create a significant need for additional park, Natural Area, and/or recreational resources.

The "Quimby" fee will adequately mitigate the project's impact on Mitigation/Conclusion. recreational facilities. No significant recreation impacts are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

12	. TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
	Will the project:	•	mitigated	•	
a)	Increase vehicle trips to local or areawide circulation system?				
b)	Reduce existing "Level of Service" on public roadway(s)?			$\boxtimes$	
c)	Create unsafe conditions on public roadways (e.g., limited access, design features, sight distance, slow vehicles)?			$\boxtimes$	
d)	Provide for adequate emergency access?			$\boxtimes$	
<b>e</b> )	Conflict with an established measure of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system considering all modes of transportation (e.g. LOS, mass transit, etc.)?				
f)	Conflict with an applicable congestion management program?				$\boxtimes$
g)	Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?				
h)	Result in a change in air traffic patterns that may result in substantial safety risks?				
i)	Other:				

**Setting.** The County has established the acceptable Level of Service (LOS) on roads for this rural area as "C" or better. The existing road network in the area, including the project's access street(s) Montclair Place and El Campo Road, are operating at acceptable levels of service. Based on existing road speeds and configuration (vertical and horizontal road curves), sight distance is considered acceptable.

Referrals were sent to County Public Works and Caltrans. No significant traffic-related concerns were identified.

Circulation Study Area. The project is within the South County Area 2 Circulation Fee area. This fee provides the means to collect "fair share" monies from new development to help fund certain regional road improvements that will be needed once the area reaches "buildout". The project will be subject to this fee.

**Impact**. The proposed project is estimated to generate about 77 trips per day, based on the Institute of Traffic Engineer's manual of 9.57/unit (based on a reasonable "worst case" of eight total units -4 primary and 4 secondary units). This small amount of additional traffic will not result in a significant change to the existing road service or traffic safety levels. The project does not conflict with adopted policies, plans and programs on transportation.

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**Mitigation/Conclusion**. No significant traffic impacts were identified, and no mitigation measures above what are already required by ordinance are necessary.

13	WASTEWATER  Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Violate waste discharge requirements or Central Coast Basin Plan criteria for wastewater systems?			$\boxtimes$	
b)	Change the quality of surface or ground water (e.g., nitrogen-loading, daylighting)?				
c)	Adversely affect community wastewater service provider?			$\boxtimes$	
d)	Other:				

**Setting.** Regulations and guidelines on proper wastewater system design and criteria are found within the County's Plumbing Code (hereafter CPC; see Chapter 7 of the Building and Construction Ordinance [Title 19]), the "Water Quality Control Plan, Central Coast Basin" (Regional Water Quality Control Board [RWQCB] hereafter referred to as the "Basin Plan"), and the California Plumbing Code. These regulations include specific requirements for both on-site and community wastewater systems. These regulations are applied to all new wastewater systems.

For on-site septic systems, there are several key factors to consider for a system to operate successfully, including the following:

- ✓ Sufficient land area (refer to County's Land Use Ordinance or Plumbing Code) depending on water source, parcel size minimums will range from one acre to 2.5 acres;
- ✓ The soil's ability to percolate or "filter" effluent before reaching groundwater supplies (30 to 120 minutes per inch is ideal);
- ✓ The soil's depth (there needs to be adequate separation from bottom of leach line to bedrock [at least 10 feet] or high groundwater [5 feet to 50 feet depending on percolation rates]);
- ✓ The soil's slope on which the system is placed (surface areas too steep creates potential for daylighting of effluent);
- ✓ Potential for surface flooding (e.g., within 100-year flood hazard area);
- ✓ Distance from existing or proposed wells (between 100 and 250 feet depending on circumstances); and
- ✓ Distance from creeks and water bodies (100-foot minimum).

To assure a successful system can meet existing regulation criteria, proper conditions are critical. Above-ground conditions are typically straight-forward and most easily addressed. Below ground criteria may require additional analysis or engineering when one or more factors exist:

- ✓ the ability of the soil to "filter" effluent is either too fast (percolation rate is faster or less than 30 minutes per inch and has "poor filtering" characteristics) or is too slow (slower or more than 120 minutes per inch);
- ✓ the topography on which a system is placed is steep enough to potentially allow "daylighting"

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of effluent downslope; or

✓ the separation between the bottom of the leach line to bedrock or high groundwater is inadequate.

Based on Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Survey map, the soil type(s) for the project is provided in the listed in the previous Agricultural Resource section. The main limitation(s) of this soil for wastewater effluent include:

-poor filtering characteristics due to the very permeable nature of the soil, without special engineering will require larger separations between the leach lines and the groundwater basin to provide adequate filtering of the effluent. In this case, based on general knowledge of the area and the response received from the Environmental Health Division, it is expected that there will be adequate separation for filtering of effluent before reaching any groundwater source.

Impacts/Mitigation. Based on the following project conditions or design features, wastewater impacts are considered less than significant:

- ✓ The project has sufficient land area per the County's Land Use Ordinance to support an onsite system;
- ✓ The soil's percolation rate is between 30 to 120 minutes per inch;
- ✓ There is adequate soil separation between the bottom of the leach line to bedrock or high groundwater;
- ✓ The soil's slope is less than 20%;
- ✓ The leach lines are outside of the 100-year flood hazard area;
- ✓ There is adequate distance between proposed leach lines and existing or proposed wells;
- ✓ The leach lines are at least 100 feet from creeks and water bodies.

Based on the above discussion and information provided, the site appears to be able to design an onsite system that will meet CPC/Basin Plan requirements. Prior to building permit issuance and/or final inspection of the wastewater system, the applicant will need to show to the county compliance with the County Plumbing Code/ Central Coast Basin Plan, including any above-discussed information relating to potential constraints. Therefore, based on the project being able to comply with these regulations, potential groundwater quality impacts are considered less than significant.

14	WATER & HYDROLOGY  Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
QL	JALITY			$\square$	
a)	Violate any water quality standards?				L
b)	Discharge into surface waters or otherwise alter surface water quality (e.g., turbidity, sediment, temperature, dissolved oxygen, etc.)?				
c)	Change the quality of groundwater (e.g., saltwater intrusion, nitrogenloading, etc.)?			$\boxtimes$	

County of San Luis Obispo, Initial Study

14	. WATER & HYDROLOGY Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
d)	Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide additional sources of polluted runoff?				
e)	Change rates of soil absorption, or amount or direction of surface runoff?			$\boxtimes$	, in the second
f)	Change the drainage patterns where substantial on- or off-site sedimentation/ erosion or flooding may occur?				
g)	Involve activities within the 100-year flood zone?				$\boxtimes$
QL	IANTITY	_	_		posterior
h)	Change the quantity or movement of available surface or ground water?			-	
i)	Adversely affect community water service provider?		$\boxtimes$		
j)	Expose people to a risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding (e.g., dam failure, etc.), or inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow?				
k)	Other:				

**Setting.** The project proposes to obtain its water needs from a community system (Rural Water Company). The Environmental Health Division has reviewed the project for water availability and has determined that there is preliminary evidence that there will be sufficient water available to serve the proposed project. Based on available information, the proposed water source is at a Level of Service III (LOS III) which means that there is not enough water available to serve potential future water demand.

The topography of the project is nearly level. The closest creek from the proposed development is approximately 0.62 miles away. As described in the NRCS Soil Survey, the soil surface is considered to have low erodibility.

#### Groundwater

General. The water containing sediments underlying Nipomo Mesa are part of the northern extension of the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin known as the Nipomo Hydrologic sub-area. The entire Santa Maria Groundwater basin includes an area of over 280 square miles, extending from the Pacific Ocean over 20 miles inland. The Santa Maria Groundwater Basin is managed by the Santa Maria Valley Water Conservation District and occupies approximately 36,000 acres most of which is in Santa Barbara County. A portion of the District extends north of the Santa Maria River into San Luis Obispo County, west of U.S. Highway 101. Twitchell Reservoir on the Cuyama River (a tributary of the

Santa Maria River) is a major groundwater recharge facility within the basin, and there are other stormwater retention and recharge basins in the Santa Maria area.

Department of Water Resources (DWR). In 1994, the DWR began an update of the 1979 study of the Arroyo Grande Valley - Nipomo Mesa Area groundwater sub area and the northern portion of the Santa Maria River Valley groundwater sub area. The study, "Water Resources of the Arroyo Grande -Nipomo Mesa Area", was completed and published in 2003. The study contains the following findings and conclusions:

- Observations of groundwater elevations in 1975, 1985 and 1995 revealed the development and subsequent expansion of a depression in groundwater elevations generally south of Willow Road and east of Highway 1 - the south central portion of the Nipomo Mesa.
- Nipomo Community Services District and Southern California Water Company have many of their wells in or near the depression. The extractions of these two agencies have increased from about 940 afy in 1979 to 2,790 afy in 1995 and 3,620 in 2000.
- There have also been increases in demand for water to serve rural residences and agricultural uses.
- Since the depression enlarges, the reduced water in storage could result in increased inflow from Santa Maria Valley and decreased outflow to the ocean from the mesa and the valley. If the pumping depression on the mesa pulls in water from the Santa Maria Valley, the possibility exists for the poorer quality groundwater of the valley, containing high concentrations of dissolved solids, to locally reduce the quality of the mesa's groundwater. Also, in the future, if subsurface outflows to the ocean cease, and the seaward hydraulic gradient is reversed, this condition could lead to seawater intrusion of the groundwater resources. Currently, there is no evidence of seawater intrusion.

A major source of recharge for the Nipomo Mesa is deep percolation of precipitation. This makes the groundwater basin vulnerable to protracted periods of below-average rainfall.

DRAINAGE - The following relates to the project's drainage aspects:

Within the 100-year Flood Hazard designation? No

Closest creek? Unnamed Creek Distance? Approximately 0.62 miles

Soil drainage characteristics: Well drained

For areas where drainage is identified as a potential issue, the Land Use Ordinance (LUO Sec. 22,52.110) includes a provision to prepare a drainage plan to minimize potential drainage impacts. When required, this plan would need to address measures such as: constructing on-site retention or detention basins, or installing surface water flow dissipaters. This plan would also need to show that the increased surface runoff would have no more impacts than that caused by historic flows.

SEDIMENTATION AND EROSION - Soil type, area of disturbance, and slopes are key aspects to analyzing potential sedimentation and erosion issues. The project's soil types and descriptions are listed in the previous Agriculture section under "Setting". As described in the NRCS Soil Survey, the the project's soil erodibility is as follows:

Soil erodibility: Low

A sedimentation and erosion control plan is required for all construction and grading projects (LUO Sec. 22.52.120, CZLUO Sec. 23.05.036) to minimize these impacts. When required, the plan is prepared by a civil engineer to address both temporary and long-term sedimentation and erosion impacts. Projects involving more than one acre of disturbance are subject to the preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), which focuses on controlling storm water runoff. The Regional Water Quality Control Board is the local extension who monitors this program.

#### Impact - Water Quality/Hydrology

With regards to project impacts on water quality the following conditions apply:

- ✓ Approximately 10,000 square feet of site disturbance is proposed;
- ✓ The project will be subject to standard County requirements for drainage, sedimentation and erosion control for construction and permanent use;
- ✓ The project is not on highly erodible soils, nor on moderate to steep slopes;
- ✓ The project is not within a 100-year Flood Hazard designation;
- ✓ The project is more than 100 feet from the closest creek or surface water body;
- ✓ All disturbed areas will be permanently stabilized with impermeable surfaces and landscaping;
- ✓ Parking area drainage inlets will be fitted with hydrocarbon filters;
- ✓ Bioswales will be installed as a part of the drainage plan;
- ✓ Stockpiles will be properly managed during construction to avoid material loss due to erosion;
- ✓ The project is subject to the County's Plumbing Code (Chapter 7 of the Building and Construction Ordinance [Title 19]), and/or the "Water Quality Control Plan, Central Coast Basin" for its wastewater requirements, where wastewater impacts to the groundwater basin will be less than significant;
- ✓ All hazardous materials and/or wastes will be properly stored on-site, which include secondary containment should spills or leaks occur;

#### **Water Quantity**

Based on a peer review by Fugro Consultants, Inc., of the water demand report prepared for the project, the calculated net water use for the proposed project is 1.33 acre feet per year (afy). Because the property is currently undeveloped, all water use would be new.

Indoor Water Demand. Indoor water demand is estimated to be a total of 1.68 afy.

Outdoor Water Demand. Outdoor water demand is estimated to be a total of 1.42 afy.

Total water demand equals 3.1 afy. The total septic system return flow is estimated to be 80% of the indoor water use. The total irrigation return flow is approximately 30%. This equates to a gross return flow of 1.77 afy. Subtracting the return flow from the gross water demand results in the net water use of 1.33 afy indicated above.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** Because there has been no supplemental water fee adopted, and the proposed project will be increasing the non-agricultural water demand, providing adequate mitigation measures to ensure that there will be adequate water supplies for both this project and future projects on the Nipomo Mesa is challenging on a case by case basis.

Based on the most recently approved subdivision in the area (Cypress Ridge II – approved by the Planning Commission in March 2014), the policy appears to be to require offsetting of a project's estimated water demand and use of mitigation measures to reduce water demand to the greatest extent feasible.

To offset the project's water demand, the applicant will need to provide evidence of retrofitting equal to the amount of water the project will use. These retrofits will need to be located within the boundaries of the Rural Water Company service area in order to provide balance within the aquifer (i.e., providing retrofits on the southern side of the community of Nipomo would have no direct benefit to the wells serving Rural Water Company).

In addition, mitigation measures have been added to reduce water demand, including a limitation on landscaping of 1,500 square feet of the lot area with no turf allowed, use of cisterns and rain barrels, rain gardens or pervious pavement, and vegetated swales.

With the inclusion of water limiting and offsetting measures, the project will not result in additional demand on the groundwater basin and impacts to groundwater supplies will be mitigated to a level of insignificance.

15	S. LAND USE  Will the project:	Inconsistent	Potentially Inconsistent	Consistent	Not Applicable
a)	Be potentially inconsistent with land use, policy/regulation (e.g., general plan [County Land Use Element and Ordinance], local coastal plan, specific plan, Clean Air Plan, etc.) adopted to avoid or mitigate for environmental effects?				
b)	Be potentially inconsistent with any habitat or community conservation plan?				$\boxtimes$
c)	Be potentially inconsistent with adopted agency environmental plans or policies with jurisdiction over the project?				
d)	Be potentially incompatible with surrounding land uses?			$\boxtimes$	of the state of th
e)	Other:			*****	

**Setting/Impact.** Surrounding uses are identified on Page 2 of the Initial Study. The proposed project was reviewed for consistency with policy and/or regulatory documents relating to the environment and appropriate land use (e.g., County Land Use Ordinance, Local Coastal Plan, etc.). Referrals were sent to outside agencies to review for policy consistencies (e.g., CAL FIRE for Fire Code, APCD for Clean Air Plan, etc.). The project was found to be consistent with these documents (refer also to Exhibit A on reference documents used).

The project is not within or adjacent to a Habitat Conservation Plan area. The project is consistent or compatible with the surrounding uses as summarized on page 2 of this Initial Study.

The proposed project is subject to the following Planning Area Standard(s) as found in the County's LUO:

- 1. Planning Area Standard Chapter: 22.122.090 A2 Palo Mesa Drainage Plan Requirements
- 2. Planning Area Standard Chapter: 22.112.020 B Edge of Nipomo Mesa
- 3. Planning Area Standard Chapter: 22.112.090 Palo Mesa Village Area
- 4. Planning Area Standard Chapter: 22.112.020 F Nipomo Mesa Water Conservation Area
- 5 Planning Area Standard Chapter: 22.112.020 South County Planning Area Inland

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** No inconsistencies were identified and therefore no additional measures above what will already be required were determined necessary.

County of San Luis Obispo, Initial Study

16.	MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Have the potential to degrade the qual reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustain animal community, reduce the numbe endangered plant or animal or elimina periods of California history or prehi	species, caus ing levels, thro r or restrict th te impo <u>rta</u> nt e	e a fish or wil eaten to elimi e range of a r	dlife nate a plant or are or	
b)	Have impacts that are individually lime ("Cumulatively considerable" means to are considerable when viewed in cont the effects of other current projects, a	that the incren nection with th	nental effects ne effects of p	of a project	
	probable future projects)		$\boxtimes$		
c)	Have environmental effects which will human beings, either directly or indire		nntial adverse	effects on	
For further information on CEQA or the county's environmental review process, please visit the County's web site at "www.sloplanning.org" under "Environmental Information", or the California Environmental Resources Evaluation System at: <a href="http://www.ceres.ca.gov/topic/env">http://www.ceres.ca.gov/topic/env</a> law/ceqa/guidelines for information about the California Environmental Quality Act.					

### **Exhibit A - Initial Study References and Agency Contacts**

The County Planning Department has contacted various agencies for their comments on the proposed project. With respect to the subject application, the following have been contacted (marked with an  $\boxtimes$ ) and when a response was made, it is either attached or in the application file:

Con	tacted Agency		Response
$\boxtimes$	County Public Works Department		Attached
$\bowtie$	County Environmental Health Division		Attached
П	County Agricultural Commissioner's Offi	ce	Not Applicable
Ħ	County Airport Manager		Not Applicable
Ħ	Airport Land Use Commission		Not Applicable
团	Air Pollution Control District	•	None
Ħ	County Sheriff's Department		Not Applicable
$\forall$	Regional Water Quality Control Board		None
H	CA Coastal Commission		Not Applicable
H	CA Department of Fish and Wildlife		Not Applicable
$\square$			Attached
$\bowtie$	CA Department of Forestry (Cal Fire)		
$\stackrel{\sim}{\bowtie}$	CA Department of Transportation		None
	Nipomo Community Services District		None
$\boxtimes$	Other Parks Division		Attached
	Other		Not Applicable
	** "No comment" or "No concerns"-type respo	nses	are usually not attached
prop	following checked ("⊠") reference materials had posed project and are hereby incorporated by rmation is available at the County Planning and	/ refe	erence into the Initial Study. The following
$\boxtimes$	Project File for the Subject Application	П	Design Plan
	inty documents	Ħ	Specific Plan
	Coastal Plan Policies	$\boxtimes$	Annual Resource Summary Report
	Framework for Planning (Coastal/Inland)	$\boxtimes$	South County Circulation Study
$\boxtimes$	General Plan (Inland/Coastal), includes all	Otno	<u>er documents</u> Clean Air Plan/APCD Handbook
	maps/elements; more pertinent elements:  Agriculture Element		Regional Transportation Plan
	Conservation & Open Space Element	×	Uniform Fire Code
	Economic Element	$\boxtimes$	Water Quality Control Plan (Central Coast
	Housing Element		Basin – Region 3)
	Noise Element     ■     Noise Element		Archaeological Resources Map
	Parks & Recreation Element/Project List	$\bowtie$	Area of Critical Concerns Map
<u>~</u>	Safety Element		Special Biological Importance Map
$\bowtie$	Land Use Ordinance (Inland/Coastal)	$\boxtimes$	CA Natural Species Diversity Database Fire Hazard Severity Map
$\mathbb{H}$	Building and Construction Ordinance Public Facilities Fee Ordinance	$\boxtimes$	Flood Hazard Maps
$\bowtie$	Real Property Division Ordinance	Ħ	Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil
X	Affordable Housing Fund	<u> </u>	Survey for SLO County
	Airport Land Use Plan	$\boxtimes$	GIS mapping layers (e.g., habitat, streams,
Ħ	Energy Wise Plan		contours, etc.)
$\boxtimes$	South County (Inland) Area Plan		Other
	and Update EIR		

#### Attachment 5

In addition, the following project specific information and/or reference materials have been considered as a part of the Initial Study:

Cultural Resources Assessment and Phase I Surface Survey, Cogstone, March 2013

Peer Review for the Vanderveen Project, Fugro Consultants, Inc., March 2014

## **Exhibit B - Mitigation Summary Table**

Per Public Resources Code Section 21081.6, the following measures also constitute the mitigation monitoring and/or reporting program that will reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels. These measures will become conditions of approval (COAs) should the project be approved. The Lead Agency (County) or other Responsible Agencies, as specified in the following measures, are responsible to verify compliance with these COAs.

#### **Aesthetics**

AS-1. At the time of application for construction permits, the applicant shall submit an Exterior Lighting Plan for County review and approval. The Plan shall define the height, location, and intensity of all exterior lighting. All lighting fixtures shall be positioned "down and into" the development, and shielded so that neither the lamp nor the related reflector interior surface is visible from surrounding properties. All lighting poles, fixtures, and hoods shall be dark colored. These measures shall be shown on applicable construction drawings prior to issuance of construction permits and permanent lighting shall be installed prior to final inspection.

Air Quality

- AQ-1. Only the following types of wood burning devices shall be allowed (based on District Rule 504): a) EPA-Certified Phase II wood burning devices; b) catalytic wood burning devices emitting less than or equal to 4.1 grams per hour of particulate matter, as verified by a nationally-recognized testing lab; c) non catalytic wood burning devices which emit less than or equal to 7.5 grams per hour of particulate matter, as verified by a nationally-recognized testing lab; d) pellet-fueled woodheaters; or e) dedicated gas-fired fireplaces. Prior to construction permit issuance, such devices shall be shown on all applicable plans, and installed as approved by the County.
- AQ-2. As of February 25, 2000, the APCD prohibits developmental burning of vegetative material within San Luis Obispo County. However, under certain circumstances where no technically feasible alternatives are available, limited developmental burning under restrictions may be allowed. Any such exception must complete the following prior to any burning: APCD approval; payment of fee to APCD based on the size of the project; and issuance of a burn permit by the APCD and the local fire department authority. As a part of APCD approval, the applicant shall furnish them with the study of technical feasibility (which includes costs and other constraints) at the time of application. For any questions regarding these requirements, Karen Brooks of APCD's Enforcement Division may be contacted (805/781-5912).
- AQ-3. Fugitive PM10 Mitigation Measures (All required PM10 measures shall be shown on applicable grading or construction plans. In addition, the developer shall designate personnel to insure compliance and monitor the effectiveness of the required dust control measures (as conditions dictate, monitor duties may be necessary on weekends and holidays to insure compliance); the name and telephone number of the designated monitor(s) shall be provided to the APCD prior to construction/ grading permit issuance)
  - a. Reduce the amount of the disturbed area where possible;
  - b. Use of water trucks or sprinkler systems in sufficient quantities to prevent airborne dust from leaving the site. Increased watering frequency would be required whenever wind speeds exceed 15 mph. Reclaimed (nonpotable) water should be used whenever
  - c. All dirt stock-pile areas should be sprayed daily as needed;

d. All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, etc. to be paved should be completed as soon as possible. In addition, building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used;

#### **Biological Resources**

BR-1. At the time of application for subdivision improvement plans and/or construction permits, if possible, to avoid potential impacts to nesting birds, tree removal associated with project activities shall be limited outside the bird nesting season, which is February 15th to September 15th. However, if tree removal is required during the bird nesting season, a survey for nesting birds shall be conducted within two weeks prior to ground disturbing activities by a qualified biologist, retained by the applicant, in and adjacent to the project area. If nesting birds are found to be located within or adjacent to the project area, an appropriate buffer area shall be established by a qualified biologist to ensure protection of the nesting birds. The biologist shall determine the appropriate buffer distance based on the bird species, topography, vegetation, and type of disturbance and in consultation with CDFG and/or USFWS. At a minimum, the buffer area shall be delineated with brightly colored construction fencing. No construction, grading, or equipment staging activities shall occur within the buffer area, which shall remain in place until the biologist has determined that the young have fledged from the nest.

#### Water

- At the time of application for construction permits, the applicant shall pay a supplemental W-1. water development fee for dwelling unit equivalent similar to that required by County Ordinance for properties located within the Nipomo Mesa Water Conservation Area.
- At the time of application for construction permits, if the County's supplemental water fee W-2. is not adopted, the applicant shall enter into an agreement with the County that the applicant will provide retrofitting within the Rural Water Company boundary to off-set the additional water useage generated by new development on the parcels. This equates to 0.3325 afy for each parcel (1.33 afy overall estimated total/4 parcels). Evidence of retrofitting and the estimated amount of water saved through retrofits will be required prior to permit issuance.
- In order to decrease water demand, at the time of application for construction permits, the W-3. applicant shall provide the following on the project plans:
  - a. Plans shall incorporate all feasible low impact design (LID) features.
  - b. Landscaping plans shall not use irrigated turf.
  - c. Landscaping plans shall include low water using, drought tolerant plant species, preferably plants native to the region.
  - d. Each parcel's total landscaped area shall not exceed 1,500 square feet.
  - e. Use of cisterns and rain barrels.
  - f. Use of rain gardens or pervious pavement, and vegetated swales.
  - g. Use of greywater systems for irrigation.

## DEVELOPER'S STATEMENT FOR THE VANDERVEEN PARCEL MAP (PARCEL MAP CO 13-0016); SUB2012-00029

The applicant agrees to incorporate the following measures into the project. These measures become a part to the project description and therefore become a part of the record of action upon which the environmental determination is based. All construction/grading activity must occur in strict compliance with the following mitigation measures. These measures shall be perpetual and run with the land. These measures are binding on all successors in interest of the subject property.

Note: The items contained in the boxes labeled "Monitoring" describe the County procedures to be used to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures.

#### **Aesthetics**

AS-1. At the time of application for construction permits, the applicant shall submit an Exterior Lighting Plan for County review and approval. The Plan shall define the height, location, and intensity of all exterior lighting. All lighting fixtures shall be positioned "down and into" the development, and shielded so that neither the lamp nor the related reflector interior surface is visible from surrounding properties. All lighting poles, fixtures, and hoods shall be dark colored. These measures shall be shown on applicable construction drawings prior to issuance of construction permits and permanent lighting shall be installed prior to final inspection.

Monitoring: The Planning and Building Department shall verify compliance.

#### Air Quality

AQ-1. Only the following types of wood burning devices shall be allowed (based on District Rule 504): a) EPA-Certified Phase II wood burning devices; b) catalytic wood burning devices emitting less than or equal to 4.1 grams per hour of particulate matter, as verified by a nationally-recognized testing lab; c) non catalytic wood burning devices which emit less than or equal to 7.5 grams per hour of particulate matter, as verified by a nationally-recognized testing lab; d) pellet-fueled woodheaters; or e) dedicated gas-fired fireplaces: Prior to construction permit issuance, such devices shall be shown on all applicable plans, and installed as approved by the County.

Monitoring: The Planning and Building Department, in consultation with the Air Pollution Control District (APCD), shall verify compliance.

AQ-2. As of February 25, 2000, the APCD prohibits developmental burning of vegetative material within San Luis Obispo County. However, under certain circumstances where no technically feasible alternatives are available, limited developmental burning under restrictions may be allowed. Any such exception must complete the following prior to any burning: APCD approval; payment of fee to APCD based on the size of the project; and issuance of a burn permit by the APCD and the local fire department authority. As a

part of APCD approval, the applicant shall furnish them with the study of technical feasibility (which includes costs and other constraints) at the time of application. For any questions regarding these requirements, Karen Brooks of APCD's Enforcement Division may be contacted (805/781-5912).

Monitoring: The Planning and Building Department, in consultation with the Air Pollution Control District (APCD), shall verify compliance.

- AQ-3. Fugitive PM10 Mitigation Measures (All required PM10 measures shall be shown on applicable grading or construction plans. In addition, the developer shall designate personnel to insure compliance and monitor the effectiveness of the required dust control measures (as conditions dictate, monitor duties may be necessary on weekends and holidays to insure compliance); the name and telephone number of the designated monitor(s) shall be provided to the APCD prior to construction/ grading permit issuance)
  - a. Reduce the amount of the disturbed area where possible;
  - Use of water trucks or sprinkler systems in sufficient quantities to prevent airborne dust from leaving the site. Increased watering frequency would be required whenever wind speeds exceed 15 mph. Reclaimed (nonpotable) water should be used whenever possible;
  - c. All dirt stock-pile areas should be sprayed daily as needed;
  - d. All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, etc. to be paved should be completed as soon as possible. In addition, building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used;

Monitoring: The Planning and Building Department, in consultation with the Air Pollution Control District (APCD), shall verify compliance.

#### **Biological Resources**

BR-1. At the time of application for subdivision improvement plans and/or construction permits, if possible, to avoid potential impacts to nesting birds, tree removal associated with project activities shall be limited outside the bird nesting season, which is February 15th to September 15th. However, if tree removal is required during the bird nesting season, a survey for nesting birds shall be conducted within two weeks prior to ground disturbing activities by a qualified biologist, retained by the applicant, in and adjacent to the project area. If nesting birds are found to be located within or adjacent to the project area, an appropriate buffer area shall be established by a qualified biologist to ensure protection of the nesting birds. The biologist shall determine the appropriate buffer distance based on the bird species, topography, vegetation, and type of disturbance and in consultation with CDFG and/or USFWS. At a minimum, the buffer area shall be delineated with brightly colored construction fencing. No construction, grading, or equipment staging activities shall occur within the buffer area, which shall remain in place until the biologist has determined that the young have fledged from the nest.

Monitoring: The Planning and Building Department shall verify compliance.

#### <u>Water</u>

W-1. At the time of application for construction permits, the applicant shall pay a supplemental water development fee for dwelling unit equivalent similar to that required by County Ordinance for properties located within the Nipomo Mesa Water Conservation Area.

Monitoring: The Planning and Building Department shall verify compliance.

W-2. At the time of application for construction permits, if the County's supplemental water fee is not adopted, the applicant shall enter into an agreement with the County that the applicant will provide retrofitting within the Rural Water Company boundary to off-set the additional water useage generated by new development on the parcels. This equates to 0.3325 afy for each parcel (1.33 afy overall estimated total/4 parcels). Evidence of retrofitting and the estimated amount of water saved through retrofits will be required prior to permit issuance.

Monitoring: The Planning and Building Department shall verify compliance.

- W-3. In order to decrease water demand, at the time of application for construction permits, the applicant shall provide the following on the project plans:
  - a. Plans shall incorporate all feasible low impact design (LID) features.
  - b. Landscaping plans shall not use irrigated turf.
  - c. Landscaping plans shall include low water using, drought tolerant plant species, preferably plants native to the region.
  - d. Each parcel's total landscaped area shall not exceed 1,500 square feet.
  - e. Use of cisterns and rain barrels.
  - f. Use of rain gardens or pervious pavement, and vegetated swales.
  - g. Use of greywater systems for irrigation.

Monitoring: The Planning and Building Department shall verify compliance.

The applicant understands that any changes made to the project subsequent to this environmental determination must be reviewed by the Environmental Coordinator and may require a new environmental determination for the project. By signing this agreement, the owner(s) agrees to and accepts the incorporation of the above measures into the proposed project description.

Signature of Owner(s)

Date

Styce Vander Vern Name (Print)





